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Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
Division of Health Care Finance and Policy  
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## **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. c.118G and in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, as amended, a public hearing will be held on Thursday, January 22, 2009 at 10:00 A.M. at the Division of Health Care Finance and Policy ("Division"), Two Boylston Street, 5<sup>th</sup> floor, Boston, MA relative to the adoption of amendments to:

### **114.3 CMR 50.00: Home Health Services**

The amendments establish a payment rate of \$69.59 per visit for a new service category for skilled nursing visits to individuals who have been on a care plan for 61 or more consecutive calendar days. Under the current regulation, these services are paid at the rate for skilled health services, \$86.99 per visit. In addition, the amendments eliminate an obsolete provision that requires a minimum level of compensation for agency staff who provide continuous skilled nursing services.

The Division adopted the amendments as an emergency effective December 1, 2008 to implement budget reductions in accordance with M.G.L. c. 29, § 9C. It is estimated that aggregate annual MassHealth expenditures will decrease by \$7.1 million, or 3%, as a result of these amendments.

Interested parties are encouraged to submit comments on these amendments. All persons desiring to be heard on this matter are hereby notified to appear at the designated time and place. Persons intending to speak will be afforded an early opportunity to testify if the Division receives notice by 5:00 P.M. on Wednesday, January 21, 2009. All others will be heard subsequently. Written comments may be sent to the Division at Two Boylston Street, 5<sup>th</sup> floor, Boston, MA 02116.

Copies of the regulation are available for inspection and/or purchase at the Division, Two Boylston Street, 5<sup>th</sup> floor, Boston, MA 02116 or you can access them free of charge in the Regulations section of the Division's web site located at [www.mass.gov/dhcfp](http://www.mass.gov/dhcfp).